
ECE 375 LAB 7

Timers/Counters

Lab Time: Friday 4-6

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INTRODUCTION

Lab 7 introduced us to the applications of the timers and counters found on the atmega 128. We were required to use the fast PWM to change the brightness of 2 LEDs and represent the brightness level using 4 other LEDs. PWM allows us to output a voltage between 0 and 5 volts by quickly turning on and off the LED in a controlled manner. The duty cycle, or amount of time the LED is on, controls the brightness of it. There are also 2 other buttons that will bring the LEDs to full brightness or bring them down to a duty cycle of 0. During these processes the 4 LEDs on the left will jump to represent the corresponding value. These routines require the correct configuration of I/O ports, interrupts, and timer counter 0 and 2. We have already had lots of experience with I/O and interrupts, but the timer configuration allows the function as fast PWM using the system clock in a non inverting mode. The onboard timers allow for a variety of counting methods and can be used in many different ways. The waveform generator can be used to create any waveform using the input from the counters.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The program is designed to display the motor status of the bot by using pwm to increase or decrease LED brightness. LEDs 6 and 5 are always on which shows the bot is constantly travelling forward. LEDs 7 and 4 are controlled through PWM to show the speed level of the motor. The rightmost LEDs display the binary value of the speed level which is 0-15. Inside of the main function we check for input from the buttons and call to corresponding function for each press. There are 2 functions that instantly put the bot into maximum speed or bring it to a halt. The other 2 routines increase or decrease the speed by 1 level. Each of these functions achieves this by varying the value of OCR for each counter. This increases or decreases the duty cycle by changing the maximum value the counter will reach.

INITIALIZATION ROUTINE

First we begin by setting all of the I/O ports we will use to input or output, and all of the buttons used will be configured with a pull up resistor. Since our second variation of the code used the polling method there was no need to configure the EICRA and EIMSK. Next, we set both counters to use the fast PWM in a non-inverting mode. We also set CS00, CS01, CS02 so the counter would be using the 16MHz system clock. With all these things in place we are ready to begin using our other routines to control the LEDs and their brightnesses.

MAIN ROUTINE

Since we decided to use polling our main function is responsible for reading each of the inputs from the 4 buttons and comparing the values to see if any were pressed. There are 4 checks inside of main, 1 check for each function we implemented. Once the value is read to mpr we compare it to check if we should make a call to the respective routine.

SLOW_DOWN ROUTINE

To prevent the wrap around from the speed up or slow down buttons each of these functions begins with a check to see if we are at the minimum value. If so we break and return to the bottom of main. If this condition is not met then we continue on to the main body of the routine. Here we decrement our count, which represents 0-15, for

the LED display and send it to the display. Then OCR for each counter is reduced by 1/16th of its max value which will cut the brightness by roughly 6.3 percent.

SPEED_UP ROUTINE

Speed up serves a similar purpose to slow down but instead of dimming the LEDs is increase the brightness by 6.3 percent. This is achieved by checking if we are at the max value of 255, which will prevent the wrap around of the brightness levels. Then OCR is changed for both counters so the overflow happens slightly later which results in a longer duty cycle and brighter LED

MAX_SPEED ROUTINE

Once the input from this button becomes low MAX_SPEED changes OCR0 and OCR2 to 255 so the LEDs will be given the full 5 volt output. The count for the binary expression is also change so the 4 LEDs display the value 15.

MIN_SPEED

This functions very similarly to the max speed function. Once the corresponding button is pressed OCR0 and OCR2 are set to 0 which is the min value counter 0 and 2 can count to. This means they will be operating at a 0% duty cycle and the LEDs will be at minimum brightness which is essentially 0 volts. The 4 LEDs on the right of the board are also changed to display the binary value of 0.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

1. In this lab, you used the Fast PWM mode of both 8-bit Timer/Counters, which is only one of many possible ways to implement variable speed on a TekBot. Suppose instead that you used just one of the 8-bit Timer/Counters in Normal mode, and had it generates an interrupt for every overflow. In the overflow ISR, you manually toggled both Motor Enable pins of the TekBot, and wrote a new value into the Timer/Counter's register. (If you used the correct sequence of values, you would be manually performing PWM.) Give a detailed assessment (in 1-2 paragraphs) of the advantages and disadvantages of this new approach, in comparison to the PWM approach used in this lab.

We should start here with an understanding of what the Fast PWM mode allows us to do, and why it's important. What fast PWM allows us to do is generate a high frequency pulse or square waves. because we can set a pulse wave to vary the average values of the wave form, it is easy to create something that will perhaps change the voltage into average basis, which we implemented here in this lab. However, it is important to understand that this is not at all how the normal mode works. In normal mode, we will be working with the initial count, which works to be a load value for initialization that doesn't stay throughout, a max value, which is the max counter, and an overflow flag we can use to interrupt.

A very large disadvantage of the normal mode would be the need to reset that count every time to generate a utility waveform that we could use to consistently modify the voltage to the motors, which would prove to be very code intensive, and not nearly as practical. Creating a waveform here would prove to be more difficult, and thus likely not nearly as practical, as the consistency basis of the fast pwm will prove to be the strongest point of utility in this lab. On the more positive side, normal mode takes far less set up, which could prove to be easier when actually programming, but this is far overshadowed by the pwm increased capability to create the consistent frequency clock.

2. The previous question outlined a way of using a single 8-bit Timer/Counter in Normal mode to implement variable speed. How would you accomplish the same task (variable TekBot speed) using one or both of the 8-bit Timer/Counters in CTC mode? Provide a rough-draft sketch of the Timer/Counter-related parts of your design, using either a flow chart or some pseudocode (but not actual assembly code).

In order to create this, we would need to utilize the CTC modes different setups for the max value that we will be setting up. In that, we can create 15 different max modes, and then load those into the output compare registers used to set those max values for the CTC mode. Using this, we could create the different generations for the motors to output a specific voltage

Pseudocode:

Initialize Function:

- Initialize timer 0 and timer 2 (8 bit) to CTC mode
- Set the output compare register to 0
- Have the interrupt ready per overflow

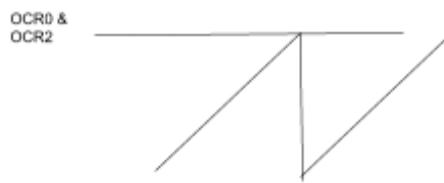
Main Function:

- Have the bot moving forward
- Listening for interrupt

Overflow and increment function:

- Increment OCR0 and OCR2 with +17, similar to PWM

Diagram:



DIFFICULTIES

Our understanding of this lab was very good, but despite this we were unable to get our program working using interrupts. After much frustration we decided to switch to the polling method and reimplement our functions that controlled the LEDs. We check our configurations a countless number of times and tried many different things for the functions that changed speed. With our new method were able to quickly recreate our program and after 30 minutes of debugging our program worked.

CONCLUSION

This lab was quite challenging but was a good test of skill using the counters. The counters are relatively easy to use and controlling the brightness of the 2 LEDs was the simplest part of the lab. The extensive usage of I/O was also good practice because it is such an important fundamental for programming with AVR. We were very

proficient with interrupts, but due to frustration we weren't able to see our mistake. This just allowed us to get more practice with AVR and the polling method.

SOURCE CODE

```

;*****
;*
;*
;*      Faaig_Waqar_and_Jordan_Brown_Lab7_sourcecode.asm
;*
;*
;*      We use big timer
;*
;*
;*      This is the skeleton file for Lab 7 of ECE 375
;*
;*
;*****
;*
;*      Author: Faaig Waqar
;*
;*      Date: November 15th, 2019
;*
;*
;*****

.include "m128def.inc"                                ; Include definition file

;*****
;*
;*      Internal Register Definitions and Constants
;*
;*****

.def      mpr = r16                                ; Multipurpose register

.def      str = r17

.equ      WskrR = 0                                ; Right Whisker Input Bit

.equ      WskrL = 1                                ; Left Whisker Input Bit

.equ      EngEnR = 4                                ; Right Engine Enable Bit

```

```

.equ    EngEnL = 7                                ; Left Engine Enable Bit

.equ    EngDirR = 5                                ; Right Engine Direction Bit

.equ    EngDirL = 6                                ; Left Engine Direction Bit


.equ    MovFwd = (1<<EngDirR|1<<EngDirL)          ; Move Forward Command

.equ    MovBck = $00                                ; Move Backward Command

.equ    TurnR = (1<<EngDirL)                        ; Turn Right Command

.equ    TurnL = (1<<EngDirR)                        ; Turn Left Command

.equ    Halt = (1<<EngEnR|1<<EngEnL)              ; Halt Command

.equ    Step = 17;


;*****

;*      Start of Code Segment

;*****

.cseg                                           ; beginning of code segment


;*****

;*      Interrupt Vectors

;*****

.org    $0000

        rjmp    INIT                            ; reset interrupt


        ; place instructions in interrupt vectors here, if needed


.org    $0046                                ; end of interrupt vectors


;*****

;*      Program Initialization

;*****

INIT:

```

```

; Initialize the Stack Pointer

ldi r16, high(RAMEND) ; Prepare lower stack addr

out SPH, r16          ; Store lower stack addr

ldi r17, low(RAMEND)  ; Prepare upper stack addr

out SPL, r17          ; Store upper stack addr

; Initialize the equidistant speed levels


; Configure I/O ports

ldi      mpr, $FF      ; Set Port B Data Direction Register
out      DDRB, mpr     ; for output

ldi      mpr, $00      ; Initialize Port D Data Register
out      PORTD, mpr    ; so all Port D inputs are Tri-State


Register      ldi      mpr, (1<<4|1<<5|1<<6|1<<7)      ; Set Port B Data Direction

out      DDRD, mpr    ; for output

Register      ldi      mpr, (1<<0|1<<1|1<<2|1<<3)      ; Initialize Port D Data

out      PORTD, mpr   ; so all Port D inputs are Tri-State

; Configure External Interrupts, if needed


; Configure 8-bit Timer/Counters

ldi mpr, (1<<WGM01|1<<WGM00|1<<COM01|1<<CS00)

out TCCR0, mpr


ldi mpr, (1<<WGM21|1<<WGM20|1<<COM21|1<<CS20)

out TCCR2, mpr

; no prescaling


ldi      r23, 0

ldi      mpr, MovFwd    ; Move the robot forward infiniely

```

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out          PORTB, mpr

ldi          mpr, 0b00000100          ; Set up wait timer

out          TCCR1B, mpr

; Set TekBot to Move Forward (1<<EngDirR|1<<EngDirL)

; Enable global interrupts (if any are used)

; Configure the External Interrupt Mask

; Enable Interrupts to be used in program

sei

;*****

;*      Main Program

;*****

MAIN:

in           r20, PIND

cpi          r20, 0b00000111          ; Check for Button 0 Input

breq         SPEED_MIN_CALL           ; if pressed, branch to function minimum

cpi          r20, 0b00001011          ; Check for Button 1 Input

breq         SPEED_MAX_CALL           ; If pressed, branch to function ma

cpi          r20, 0b00001110          ; Check for Button 2 Input

breq         SPEED_UP_CALL            ; if pressed, branch to function pd0

cpi          r20, 0b00001101          ; Check for Button 3 Input

breq         SPEED_DOWN_CALL          ; If pressed, branch to function pd1

rjmp         MAIN                    ; Create an infinite while loop to signify the

; poll Port D pushbuttons (if needed)

SPEED_MIN_CALL:

```



```

to 0          ldi          r23, 0                ; utilize thr counter we use and set
to mpr        mov          mpr, r23              ; copy the contents of the copy reg
the two for port ori          mpr, 0b01100000    ; Use or functionality to combine
leds          out          PORTB, mpr            ; place the contentsin portb for

rcall SPEED_MIN
SPEED_MIN_WAIT:
in            r20, PIND
cpi           r20, 0b00001111                  ; Check for button up Input, wait
breq JUMP_MAIN
rjmp SPEED_MIN_WAIT

SPEED_MAX_CALL:
to 15         ldi          r23, 15                ; utilize thr counter we use and set
to mpr        mov          mpr, r23              ; copy the contents of the copy reg
the two for port ori          mpr, 0b01100000    ; Use or functionality to combine
leds          out          PORTB, mpr            ; place the contentsin portb for

rcall SPEED_MAX                                ; Jump to function to modify PWM

SPEED_MAX_WAIT:
in            r20, PIND
cpi           r20, 0b00001111                  ; Check for button up Input, wait
breq JUMP_MAIN
rjmp SPEED_MAX_WAIT

SPEED_UP_CALL:
nop
rcall WAIT_2
ldi           mpr, 15                          ; load multipurpose resiter to max
15

```

```

a max      cp          mpr, r23                ; Compare to check if counter is at

breq       JUMP_MAIN                ; branch off if the counter will overflow

inc        r23                      ; Increment the counter

mov        mpr, r23                ; Copy the counter into mpr

ori        mpr, 0b01100000          ; Use the OR command function to
combine
out        PORTB, mpr              ; output onto port B

rcall      SPEED_DOWN

SPEED_UP_WAIT:
in         r20, PIND

cpi        r20, 0b00001111          ; Check for button up Input, wait

breq       JUMP_MAIN

rjmp       SPEED_UP_WAIT

SPEED_DOWN_CALL:
nop

rcall      WAIT_2

ldi        mpr, 0                  ; load multipurpose resiter to min 0

cp         mpr, r23                ; Compare to check if counter is at
a min
breq       JUMP_MAIN                ; branch off if the counter will overflow

dec        r23                      ; decrement the counter

mov        mpr, r23                ; Copy the counter into mpr

ori        mpr, 0b01100000          ; Use the OR command function to
combine
out        PORTB, mpr              ; output onto port B

rcall      SPEED_UP

SPEED_DOWN_WAIT:
in         r20, PIND

cpi        r20, 0b00001111          ; Check for Button 0 Input

```

```

        breq    JUMP_MAIN

        rjmp    SPEED_DOWN_WAIT

JUMP_MAIN:

        rjmp    MAIN

                                ; if pressed, adjust speed

                                ; also, adjust speed indication

;*****

;*      Functions and Subroutines

;*****

;-----

; Func: Template function header

; Desc: Cut and paste this and fill in the info at the

;           beginning of your functions

;-----

SPEED_DOWN:    ; Begin a function with a label

compare red

        in      mpr, OCR0          ; take the value currently stores in output

        ldi     str, 17            ; Load to prepare a timer counter increment

        add     mpr, str           ; add to the loaded value

        out     OCR0, mpr          ; Place for timer 0

        out     OCR2, mpr          ; Place for timer 2

        ret

```

SPEED_UP:

```
compare red    in        mpr, OCR0        ; take the value currently stores in output
               ldi        str, 17         ; Load to prepare a timer counter increment
               sub        mpr, str         ; subtract to the loaded value

               out        OCR0, mpr        ; Place for timer 0
               out        OCR2, mpr        ; Place for timer 2

               ret
```

SPEED_MIN:

```
ldi        mpr, $00        ; Loaded minimum value into mpr
out        OCR0, mpr        ; Output into Output compares
out        OCR2, mpr

ret
```

SPEED_MAX:

```
ldi        mpr, $FF        ; Loaded maximum value into mpr
out        OCR0, mpr        ; Output into Output compares
out        OCR2, mpr

ret
```

WAIT:

```

        push    r18                ; Save wait register

        push    r19                ; Save ilcnt register

        push    r20                ; Save olcnt register


        ldi     r18, 200

Loop:   ldi     r20, 224            ; load olcnt register
OLoop: ldi     r19, 237            ; load ilcnt register
ILoop: dec     r19                ; decrement ilcnt

        brne    ILoop            ; Continue Inner Loop

        dec     r20                ; decrement olcnt

        brne    OLoop            ; Continue Outer Loop

        dec     r18                ; Decrement wait

        brne    Loop            ; Continue Wait loop


        pop     r20                ; Restore olcnt register

        pop     r19                ; Restore ilcnt register

        pop     r18                ; Restore wait register

        ret


WAIT_2:

        ldi     mpr, high(52000)    ; Load equation value

        out     TCNT1H, mpr

        ldi     mpr, low(52000)      ; to set time for wait

        out     TCNT1L, mpr


LOOPY:

        in      mpr, TIFR            ; Check TOV1 for overflow

        sbrs    mpr, TOV1

        rjmp     LOOPY

        ldi     mpr, 0b000000100    ; restore flags

        out     TIFR, mpr

```

ret

;*****

;* Stored Program Data

;*****

 ; Enter any stored data you might need here

;*****

;* Additional Program Includes

;*****

 ; There are no additional file includes for this program